REMARKS

The Abstract has been re-written.

A terminal disclaimer is enclosed herewith to remove the obvious double patenting rejection.

In the event any additional fee is required, please charge such amount to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 50-0845.
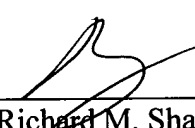
Respectfully submitted,

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Technology Center 2100

Date 11/21/02

Richard M. Sharkansky
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No.: 25,800
Daly, Crowley, & Mofford, LLP
275 Turnpike Street, Suite 101
Canton, MA 02021-2310
Telephone: (781) 401-9988, 23
Facsimile: (781) 401-9966

Attachment: Abstract Mark Up Sheet
emc2-078aus-response to office action (08_21_02).doc

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ABSTRACT COMPARISON

A data storage system wherein end-user data is transferred between a host computer and a bank of disk drives through an interface. The interface includes a memory and a ~~plurality of~~ directors interconnected through an interface state data bus and ~~a plurality of~~ end-user data busses. At least one front-end one of the directors is in communication with the host computer and at least one rear-end one of the directors is in communication with the bank of disk drives. The interface state data bus section is in communication with: both the at least one front-end one and the at least one rear-end one of the directors; and to the memory. Each one of the ~~plurality of~~ end-user data buses has a first end coupled to a corresponding one of the ~~plurality of~~ directors and a second end coupled to the memory. The ~~plurality of~~ directors control the end-user data transfer between the host computer and the bank of disk drives through the memory in response to interface state data generated by the directors as such end-user data passes through the end-user data busses. The generated interface state data is transferred among the directors through the memory as such end-user data passes through the end-user bus.